

M-1168

Thursday, April 6, 1967

Berkeley and New York - Groups I and II

Well how wonderful to be here. And with the trip. Is Andy Here? Andy? (Not yet.) Ross? (yes) Where's Andy? (Palo Alto) Ah. That's right. All of those in, from here who went to Santa Fe and Seattle to Santa Fe, and then it was interesting to ~~see~~ meet and it's too bad - it would have been nice if all of us had been able to do it. But it was already big as it was - really quite surprising. I've said before that I didn't know what I started when I made a little bit of a remark - wouldn't it be nice to go across country with a few of us. And there we were finally in Santa Fe with 75 people or so. I think all of us got a great deal out of it. Not always pleasant. I think many times it was difficult and sometimes perhaps so difficult that it could not be used even for the purposes of work. At the same time, the impressions that all of us have gotten of the country and mostly of each other I think are quite valuable and you won't forget. It was good cold weather at night, we had to use blankets, it was windy a few times, but in general the whole trip as we planned it. It worked out all right and although we dribbled in sometimes in the evening, in particular on the trip between New York and Santa Fe, we finally we got there. Except a few mishaps probably, like some tires or even losing some money and including a ticket for speeding we're here. And what for? To try to do something together as much as we can for the next couple of months. I've said before my responsibility in bringing you all here from New York ends today. You have been mostly on your own anyhow except

see each other and have a chance of talking over and also changing over to meet different people in different cars. There have been little difficulties here and there, people always will get into each others' hair, but it was a very good thing to show what one really can do, particularly under the stress of endurance, of when you get tired and that still then you have to be something and not - not allow you to lose yourself.

I say I think it will help and it has helped to some extent to stand on your own feet. You have learned, or you have been able to learn because opportunity was there to find how it is to make your own plans and to be intelligent about it and to find out sometimes how stupid you have been and that you don't read maps correctly or that you look for certain things which are not there and you hope for certain things to happen which are a little impossible. They may be based on assumptions. And many times of course you saw in yourself certain things that perhaps you didn't like too much and then in accordance with the rules of objective morality it was very difficult to accept yourself. If you only could come to the conclusion that you have limitations, that you as a human being, every one of us, only can go so far and no further and that unconsciousness will not allow you, even if you do make certain changes, that again it will set up different ways of psychological behavior which, from the standpoint of objectivity of course, are exactly the same as the one before and that the adaptation that you have every time in a while in ordinary life in order to get along with each other and that you play a certain role or perhaps become a little hypocritical - all of that from the standpoint of

real working has no particular value. It might give you flexibility. And I think in that sense this trip was useful. You saw yourself in many different situations which you have never seen, also you got impressions from sections of the country which were quite unfamiliar to you and perhaps you only knew from the standpoint of a map you looked at. This time you saw certain things - beautiful, very lovely. It made at times maybe - made you very quiet - maybe at times you couldn't talk.

And now we're here. It's not over yet. We'll try to ~~you~~ plant to go up to Seattle as soon as possible because some of the people from New York will have to go back. They cannot afford to be here too long and at the same time I also know that one of the reasons that Ruthie and Peter came here is for the movements. Of course that will interfere now a little if we take off three or four days, maybe a little longer, for going up to Portland and Seattle. Still I think it is the best way to do and I hope that you still can extract enough from them () for the music. However we have no piano as yet. It's a difficult place here to accommodate too many people if we want to do movements. So I first thought that perhaps we could do it tomorrow but I have my doubts now. So tomorrow is a day of recollecting, of talking to yourself. Those who are at home here, of course they have different things to do. The others - we have to talk about who goes to Seattle, who wants to go, who can, who can afford it. I hope that you have not spent too much money. The purpose of trying to get together on camping grounds is simply in order to avoid spending too much money and some of us probably have saved from it and are now able to go on. It's hard to say.

enough among the people of Berkeley and San Francisco and Palo Alto.

You still have to go back. Again you need planning. What will you do, how can you do it? You have to stand on your own feet, you have to know: this you can do. And after those who come from New York come back again, I hope that the fund of information and data you have acquired will stay for a long time, that many times you will refer to it in your mind - not necessarily in discussion - so that for yourself you probably will feel you are a changed person.

How changed? How changed in yourself, how changed inside of you? How changed as far as your inner life is concerned? What is it that you really have wanted to derive from this trip and, if you have had it, if you've got it, if it had that kind of a meaning, it is something that you never will be able to pay for because it has cost you now - in energy, in money, in time, in assumptions that you could do, a great deal of energy. You have to go through life like that. Life is not monotony. Life has to be such variety, the greatest variety you possibly can make for yourself. Each person in his own experience of course is limited by his type, by the way he has been educated and brought up, by the way he is already bound because of certain decisions he has made or perhaps responsibilities that have been laid on him. At the same time with this limitation of each human being, whatever they are, whatever we are, totally - that is, not individually.

And the question then, what is really required of a man when he starts to discover himself, what changes will it be and what does it mean?

and that what his world is and how limited his world compared to others - also their world is limited. But on the basis of exchanging and also on the basis of being able to put oneself in different places, maybe then it is of very good value too if you can enlarge your world.

Enlarging of the world is based on the participation of "I" in the ordinary affairs of life with which you are familiar and then the wish for "I" to explore the possibility of a further adaptation will cause an experimental state and you will only acquire it when you are already at least a little partial. Partially observing, partial to what you have, partial to what ~~it~~ has and "I" becoming impartial to the totality of yourself and your world.

That what starts in one is really an "I" becoming impartial to oneself as one is living one's life and starting to understand then gradually what it is that motivates oneself in the first place and gradually motivates - one sees what it motivates with other people. That then you become also more objective towards others and that the real objectivity is the understanding that each person is what he is like everyone of us is - mechanical, automatic, and that the realization of that kind of mechanicality will help you to understand them and only on that basis will you be able to work together and to cooperate.

The aim of a group of this kind now from different parts of, not of the world but at least from a certain section, after having made an effort - now we're here. The aim for that is to wish to cooperate. As a minimum, as a group you help you, as a group you help you.

understand that that what is really your life is only a very small part of the possibilities of a group as a whole and the more truthfulness, the more ~~xxx~~ exchange there can be objectively speaking, wishing to communicate and to tell and to find out from the others what they are, what they really - what makes them whatever they are, what makes you whatever you can be for them, whatever they can be for you. All of that then - it is like a fund of information, data put together truthfully which then can be used, you might say, as a stew, stirred up among us to find out what is the greatest common denominator; that would be the chief feature of a group. It is in that sense you see that this kind of getting together after having gone through a little fatigue and endurance that now while we're here and try to see now why we will continue for a little while to try to do this, make use of it for yourself to see what can be done for yourself with the aid of someone else who is here, who has lived perhaps a different kind of a life and that exchange among you. Let alone all kind of jealousies, try to forget vanity and self love. Don't put yourself in the foreground trying to make an impression. Be whatever you are, whatever value there is. From an unconscious standpoint it is of course quite different. From a conscious standpoint it's absolutely alike. That what you are as personality is acceptable as a personality and not as a description of it and objectively speaking, all such units are simple units. They are nothing else and nothing special. Unfortunately we are not any more than just, as Gurdjieff calls it, slugs. And the realization of that impossibility of really having a will - to be able to do and to know and to feel correctly. You must confess, you must know when you're honest that you will be terribly far removed from that kind of

naturally that that becomes the motivating force for oneself. These three things out of the book, if you see them as something that belongs together and that the three as a unit, a tri unity, then the book starts to have a little bit of a meaning and when you look at it and when you want to read it, read any one of those three. For the time being, forget a little bit about the detail - the Purgatory, maybe the Arch Absurd, maybe the different things which you don't really understand as yet because they have psychological values which of course are extremely difficult to see.

How to see in this what is really the reflection of the moon. How to see where is the place of the sun, what is Anulios in oneself, this never to be forgotten desire to wish to work. And never to take that what is now the moon as reality, never to think that even when it is reflected from the sun that it has reality in oneself. That what is moon in xi is one's habitual form of behavior. One's tendencies, one's idiosyncracies, all the different manifestations of ~~one's~~ one's personality. It is a reflection of that what we call the sun. But the sun, not being what it should be, it becomes a reflection of that what is our body and that is the reason that the body at the present time with the manifestations always as expressed as a result of feeling are so closely together - this is the reason that the moon still was part of the earth originally - and now starts to function, circling around the earth and belonging to it, like a feeling belongs/ to one. And now the separation - to really put content into the sun and to take away from the body what always was so terribly important for oneself by the aid of that what is Anulios within one, which is one's Magnetic Center, which is life, real life, eternal life.

life which for man is known at times when he experiences a quietness and a stillness and an impossibility to speak, to be in the presence, even on earth, to be in the presence let's say of the Grand Canyon where words must fail you and there is nothing else but just to feel the presence of something that is of course infinitely higher - even that on earth we can experience. Even when we can experience on earth a moment of existing, without any description whatsoever and the necessity of describing that kind of a manifestation - one is quiet. One says to oneself, 'shut up, what is there to say, why should I even make an attempt to say it.' This is the depth of one's life. At that point, Anulios appears; at that point Magnetic Center becomes apparent; at the point the () makes the moon transparent; at that time Anulios comes through that and affects one and starts to make contact with that what is one's real life, as Anulios, and then ~~because~~ because of this in Magnetic Center now taking place, this contact creates an 'I' in the wish to have a guide so that we then at such a time can be linked up towards the sun.

You see the position of 'I' now is one's real ~~inner~~ intellect. Now it starts at the moment of existing, of the realization of that what is Karatas, of the wish then to be united with God to the extent that one understands it, and the wish then even to sacrifice oneself completely in order to find one's life in reality.

We have to learn it. You must not try to do it too hard - learning. You have to try to be. You have to be in life. You have to work in life. You have to do your work, your ordinary work, in life

correctly. You have to do it as well as you can, as completely as you can, as openly as you can. As much without a wish even to be recognized then only for yourself to have the knowledge that that what you are doing is right.

Maybe we talk about this more and more as we are here. We will talk you know - your questions - I am now talking to Berkeley and Palo Alto and San Francisco. New York will get tapes from our meetings and those from New York who still will be here, of course they will be here. We'll go to Seattle Saturday morning. Those of you who can come. We'll have to arrange for it. We stop over in Portland. It will be a two day trip. Sunday, Sunday afternoon, I hope we will be in Portland. Maybe we can have some music. Then Portland in the evening - meeting. You know a little bit about the group. I think they need help. They talk, talk, talk, much too much, and that is probably because of some of them being Theosophists - they always love to talk about things without doing anything and ~~wikawik~~ usually they talk about things that they cannot understand anyhow because they have to do with three, four, five, six, seven levels of being. It's so totally idiotic even to consider that. But in any event there is a chance. After that, Seattle. Seattle Sunday night - probably late. Monday. Monday a little organ. Monday and Tuesday also organ. Music. Certain harmonies. Certain ways of expressing things. Certain ways perhaps as feeling. Sometimes impossible to put in words - still possible to put in sound. Maybe we can play a little. Monday night meeting - open. There's a radio program on the air - must have been this week I hope - night

bring some people in. What we need for that - you might be interested - it was part of the last open meeting in Berkeley towards the end, although I understand there are about (50) minutes of that time that we will be on the air. It is a rather small station in Seattle but interesting & if it actually comes off it might arouse interest.

You see interest is there. But it has to be directed. You have to be open about that. You have to be able to tell. You have to be able to show. Show what can be done if one wishes to work instead of trying to let them go and receive all kind of slip trap in a direction where it is not going to help them at all. Then only a little satisfaction for their mind and sometimes feeling but no building up of anything that is permanent in any sense of the word and it is such a pity because such material - it goes by the board and it is sent in the wrong way because it is not used for the building for that what at the present time doesn't exist. ~~There~~

In Seattle Tuesday evening open meetings. Wednesday morning we'll come back. That means we probably won't be back until Thursday. But Thursday evening next week we'll have a meeting. I hope we will be back in time.

What will we do? Tomorrow if possible a little music. Tomorrow evening if we can find a piano. Tomorrow otherwise during the day get your affairs in order. Try to help as much as you possibly can in organizing so that things will go smoothly and offer your services if necessary. Don't leave it just to a few. See what you can do. Make your time useful. What will we do with the rest. Transcriptions. Much work. This place. Talk here. Typewriters. Records. What

it is. Andy probably can help in the foot recording. ()
Much too much work is still to be done. You have to help. You have to help not only that you will profit - someone else will profit by it. You have to become more and more honest. This place has to be a work place. It will be worked on of course when there is free time - there are things that have to be done - building, painting, whatever it is, movement of machinery sometime maybe, a little handiwork but let's make this a place so that there is here created an atmosphere that if when someone comes in they something happens to such a person happens to him. What is here. As if the atmosphere of oneself while one is working enters from one and penetrates into the walls and stays there and again and again becomes alive when it is called on because one comes in in an unconscious state. Don't forget for one moment that the creation of an atmosphere among people of a work group is tremendously important and could be of such help that you even don't know until you find out by experience what it is and then almost you would say, such a feel I am that I have not even tried. At the same time, don't expect it to be too soon because we are so completely unconscious still the attempts have to be made nevertheless. It doesn't matter.

On the 26th I think I'll go to Big Sur. I would like to have an opportunity to see - in Big Sur there is, not necessarily the Esalen Institute but from the surrounding country including Carmel there are people - also I think people who would need or could use work. I cannot say very much about it. I hope it will be on a good enough basis. In fact my whole idea was to come and stay

It will be a one day trip simply. After that again towards the end of April I'll be here. Then the transition to May. It will depend if I go again to Portland. I cannot (foresee) too much of it. Seattle however I wish to go back again perhaps in the beginning of that month. Coming back again. Again working together.

It's going to be a long period. You may as well make up your mind. It's not that I'm making such a hard task master but I wish to work with you - that is the reason that I came and therefore you have to utilize as much as you possibly can the opportunity of a stimulus. I will not guarantee to answer all your questions. I will try to the extent that it is possible for whatever it is that you need. You need me maybe a little. And perhaps we can get somewhere. But let's make it now continuous so that we adjust ourselves a little bit more to the fact that I happen to be here and not to be too concentrated like it has many times in the past.

We will have on Thursday the regular meeting of group one. I hope we will have it in this room because it is conveniently located both from Berkeley and Palo Alto. Group II's I would like to hold also and () but I would like to have one week the Berkeley group two, to which Palo Alto group two is invited, and the following week Palo Alto, to which Berkeley is invited. I do not think it is necessary to have two group two meetings in a week. Let's combine it. It would be a little bit too repetitions. But you know for group two you still have the possibility of inviting people who don't know very much about work. Also that I think ought to be changed a little. Because

you must make more and more the emphasis of a group two as a (central) group where you discuss work, where you learn how to talk if you belong to group one, where the group one people actually test themselves to find out how much they know and what they can use if * you desire to answer the different questions that could come from newer people who are interested in finding out how to do and why work. Why should I work. What is the () placed upon me that even if they are a little critical or perhaps to some extent a little hamanussian, don't be dismayed because the worst they can do is to stay away. At the same time you also have to learn how to deal with the general public. How to be able to put in their words whatever it is that their interests have been and perhaps has been developed in the direction of their () religion or ethical values or interests they might have scientifically or psychologically or whatever direction artistically - it may be apparent that they are looking for something.

You cannot talk immediately about work. They don't understand it and they don't wish it. All they wish is an opening for a possibility to see and then when they can see it they can judge do they want to do something or not. You have to be that kind of a neutral group. This would be group three. It will be held here. It will be in San Francisco. It will draw if we possibly can from a few people around here, Berkeley maybe, Palo Alto, other sections. Maybe we do something special for it in order to draw that kind of an audience. Maybe it is in the nature a little bit of an open meeting to which different people can be invited. I do not know. As we go along we will decide. Also the evening which is quite suitable.

Sundays, Saturdays when I'm here we will work here, practical work. I hope we can do it dependent on how fast they move certain things out. How much money we have to be able to spend - it's going to cost you something. Don't think that you will be able to do these things for nothing. It's going to exact from you sacrifices, not only in time and energy but real thought. The ability to do ~~some~~ certain things for the sake of yourself maintaining the balance of your own inner life. The ~~unhappy~~ realization of the necessity which of course I believe is an absolute need for certain people to be able to live in this life correctly and not to be swayed all the time by everything that happens in the fight between civilization and nature. That there is something that we are ground to pieces between these two natural forces and that what we call industry, commercialism, civilization we call it as a product and we are between the two stones being ground. Because we belong either to one who wishes to withdraw from civilization or we become completely immersed and forget our roots and we don't even know that the magnificent Grand Canyon exists.

Where is our inner life. Where can it be maintained. How can we avoid to be crushed to death. Because as you know as well as I do that we are. That constantly this civilization, civilized processes are going to exact more and more from us and it is not only noticeable in politics or the nonsense that is being published, but the total atmosphere and even the desire on the part of people to negate it and not to wish even to talk about that what is some spiritual being. That that desire of responsibility and to accept only manifestations for whatever it means their value for, the spiritual world is gone.

sense completely disturbed. One becomes crystallized and one loses oneself so entirely that Magnetic Center disappears. You must learn. You must remember yourself. Your real self. That what you are. You have to learn how to pray. You have to learn how to be honest. You have to learn how to think thank God for your life. For the ability to break even. That you are still able to stand up. That you are still able to think about the possibility of what might be without even maybe having enough force to strive but that with this you put yourself in a certain place. Where can I find in this life as I have to live is the possibility of retaining myself and to come to myself in reality and turning within without the aid of a little candle in front of you. To be - in the midst of whatever it is that you are.

Don't employ any particular kind of outside manifestation - a toga or some kind of a turned around collar or even a fan for or a turban on your head. Just be simply ordinary. I would almost say loveable human beings. But be honest. Honest in such simplicity and don't play up to the gallery and don't think that you're entitled to anything in particular unless you in yourself - in your own conscience - know that you have tried each day to create like the world was created.

So you see, there's a little bit of a program. We will work together. We can do it. I am sure we can. And particularly when there are large groups. Some people who cannot always come, they must not come then, don't force yourself. Someone else will take your place. If we have meetings with tapes, you can listen to it. Don't be negligent but don't feel pressured. For heaven's sake, don't do it because I say so. You do it because you wish and if you honestly have the wish, don't do it. It is of no use to do it if you don't want it. It is the quality, not the quantity.

and you can afford it, then you will want to do it correctly and for that reason I say it has to remain extremely simple because too much complications make people shy away. They will lose the thread and they will not know any more how to return. They don't know what to hold onto and they don't know any more what worth that reality exists.

I am sure we are probably a little tired maybe tonight, some of us. Before you go make sure that those who will take care of Seattle - Steve will you correlate it to see who can go and make connections with Andy - Ross for Seattle, to tell who, with Ron here, with Robert who had has had now some experience in assigning people to cars. Will you see what can be done. You know Eve will then take care of these things so that everything is considered. And it is done in the right way. When we come back next Thursday all of us, whoever you are, you come. Then we'll talk about work. What work means and work in yourself with whatever it is that you wish to know. That you are bothered by. That is an obstacle and that you cannot overcome, even if you wished with all your heart. Sometimes you don't know what it is that objects to it but maybe if we talk about it, it might help to clarify. When you come next week, come with that intention. Come with a real wish to find reality so that when you go home with it that you then wish to apply it. Don't ever come just to come. And don't ever come just for curiosity. It is so useless. Your time is better spent going to a movie. But if you want to come to find out how can I discover myself and what is it that I have to do for myself in my life - what is it that is required - and to what extent can I place myself in the service of the Lord. Don't ever be ashamed to be religious in the real sense of the word because your religion should be the conduct of your life. As some of you I hope to join on the trip to Seattle and elsewhere - wherever it may be - next week, next Thursday. Good night.